

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 033768

14-11

ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCA-01 VO-03 L-02 A-01 SCS-03 INR-07

/030 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/EE:WSSHEPARD/FDR

APPROVED BY SCA:THE ADMINISTRATOR

EUR/EE:NGANDREWS

----- 028130

R 132248Z FEB 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 033768

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CGEN,PFOR,HU

SUBJECT: COURTESY CALLS BY TAMAS ON SCA ADMINISTRATOR AND
EUR/EE DIRECTOR

REF: BUDAPEST 382

1. SUMMARY: AT REQUEST HUNGARIAN EMBASSY AND IN RESPONSE
REFTEL SUGGESTION, COURTESY CALLS ARRANGED FOR TAMAS ON
EUR/EE DIRECTOR ANDREWS AND SCA ADMINISTRATOR WALENTYNO-
WICZ DURING HIS FEBRUARY 11 WASHINGTON STOPOVER. THROUGH-
OUT CALLS, TAMAS EMPHASIZED GOOD WORKING RELATIONSHIP
BETWEEN MFA CONSULAR DIVISION AND EMBASSY BUDAPEST CON-
SULAR SECTION. HE AGREED GENERALLY THAT WE HAVE COMMON
INTEREST IN QUIET RESOLUTION OF OUTSTANDING CONSULAR PRO-
BLEMS SO THAT THEY DO NOT ESCALATE TO POLITICAL LEVEL.
SEVERAL AREAS WHERE US-HUNGARIAN COOPERATION COULD BE
BROADENED WERE EXPLORED IN PRELIMINARY WAY. END SUMMARY.

2. DURING COURSE OF CALL ON EUR/EE ANDREWS, TAMAS CITED
JUNE 1974 TRAVEL PACKAGE AND ELIMINATION ANNOUNCEMENT IN
AND OUT REQUIREMENTS AS STEP FORWARD IN US-GOH CONSULAR
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 033768

RELATIONS. HE SAID THAT SOMETIMES A PROBLEM EXISTED

REGARDING OFFICIAL VISAS, GOH WOULD "GLADLY" DISCUSS WITH US QUESTION OF SPEEDING UP OFFICIAL VISA ISSUANCE. HUNGARIAN AIM WAS TO LESSEN THE TIME REQUIRED, AND A US INITIATIVE TO SHORTEN THIS TO, SAY, ONE WEEK WOULD BE "WELCOMED". IN RESPONSE ANDREWS' QUESTION, TAMAS SAID GOH COULD ALSO WORK OUT A PROVISION GOVERNING SPEEDY VISA ISSUANCE IN EMERGENCY CASES, CITING GOOD WILL SHOWN IN THIS REGARD DURING RECENT CODEL WILSON VISIT. TAMAS NOTED ANDREWS' MENTION OF MESTERHAZY CASE. WE HOPED THAT THIS POLITICALLY SENSITIVE MATTER WOULD PROCEED WITH DISPATCH AND BE VIEWED BY HUNGARIAN AUTHORITIES IN HUMANITARIAN LIGHT, AND THAT SIMILAR MATTERS IN CONSULAR FIELD COULD BE SOLVED IN COOPERATIVE SPIRIT.

3. IN RESPONSE ANDREWS' QUESTION, TAMAS SAID GOH SATISFIED WITH IMPLEMENTATION US-GOH CONSULAR AGREEMENT. GOH SAW NO BREACHES ON US SIDE. SOME NOTIFICATIONS (OF DEATH) FOR EXAMPLE) COULD BE MADE MORE QUICKLY; BUT GOH REALIZED THAT THIS MORE DIFFICULT IN US THAN IN SMALL CENTRALIZED COUNTRY SUCH AS HUNGARY. MEETING ENDED WITH EXPRESSION OF APPRECIATION BY TAMAS FOR OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS MATTERS WITH ANDREWS. ANDREWS ASKED THAT ANY CONSULAR PROBLEMS BE BROUGHT TO HIS ATTENTION IF HE COULD BE HELPFUL. TAMAS SAID ON HIS RETURN HE WOULD MAKE SURE SAME GOOD SPIRIT CONTINUED TO PREVAIL IN OUR CONSULAR RELATIONS, WITH SIMILAR CONSIDERATION ACCORDED GERTH AS WELL.

4. CALL ON SCA ADMINISTRATOR WALENTYNOWICZ BEGAN WITH ADMINISTRATOR'S EXPRESSION OF PLEASURE OVER SUCCESSFUL US-GOH CONSULAR AGREEMENT. WE ARE NOW NEGOTIATING CONSULAR AGREEMENT WITH GDR, AND CAN BUILD ON EXPERIENCES GAINED WITH GOH. TAMAS SAID US-GOH AGREEMENT WAS "VERY WELL ELABORATED," AND THUS PROBLEMS OF POLITICAL NATURE WHICH MIGHT OTHERWISE ARISE WERE RESOLVED. IN RESPONSE ADMINISTRATOR'S QUESTION, TAMAS AGAIN ALLUDED TO OCCASIONAL PROBLEM OF TIMELY NOTIFICATIONS TO THEIR CONSUL OF MATTERS AFFECTING HUNGARIAN CITIZENS. WALENTYNOWICZ AGREED THAT SOMETIMES LOCAL AUTHORITIES NEEDED REMINDERS AND SAID DEPARTMENT WOULD BE GLAD TO SEE TO THIS WHEN NEED AROSE.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 033768

TAMAS REPLIED THAT IN SAME SPIRIT HE WOULD APPRECIATE BEING INFORMED IF OUR EMBASSY EXPERIENCED PROBLEM WITH NOTIFICATIONS.

5. ADMINISTRATOR THEN RAISED GENERAL PROBLEM OF DIVIDED FAMILIES, STRESSING USG CONCERN THAT FAMILIES BE KEPT TOGETHER, AND ASKING GOH COOPERATION ON HUMANITARIAN BASIS. TAMAS REPLIED THAT "AS WE SOLVED SIMILAR PROBLEMS DURING

NEGOTIATIONS OF CONSULAR AGREEMENT, SO CAN WE SOLVE THIS PROBLEM." EACH CASE IS, HOWEVER, AN INDIVIDUAL MATTER.

6. ADMINISTRATOR THEN RAISED MATTER OF OCCASIONAL DENIAL OF HUNGARIAN VISAS. WHEN THIS HAPPENED, IT WOULD BE HELPFUL FOR US TO KNOW THE REASONS FOR THE DENIAL FOR INQUIRING CITIZENS. TAMAS SAID THAT SUCH EXPLANATIONS WERE NOT STATE PRACTICE AND ADDED THAT "THE APPLICANTS THEMSELVES KNOW" WHY THEY WERE DENIED. HE DID, HOWEVER, SAY THAT IF SUCH A CASE AROSE, DEPT SHOULD PUT THE QUESTION TO THE HUNGARIAN CONSUL (IMPLYING SOME POSSIBILITY OF RESPONSIVE ANSWER).

7. WALENTYNOWICZ MENTIONED CASE OF JOSEPH MOLNAR, ONLY US CITIZEN CURRENTLY IN PRISON IN HUNGARY. HE SAID WE HAD UNDERSTOOD THAT HIS LEG HAD BOTHERED HIM. WE WOULD APPRECIATE NEWS ON HIS CONDITION, AND CONSIDERATION FOR SUCH TIME OFF FOR GOOD BEHAVIOUR OR EVENTUAL AMNESTY OR CLEMENCY AS HUNGARIAN LAW ALLOWED. TAMAS, WHO WAS UNFAMILIAR WITH CASE, PROMISED TO DISCUSS FURTHER WITH GERTH.

8. TAMAS STRESSED EXCELLENT RELATIONS BETWEEN MFA CONSULAR DIVISION AND EMBASSY, MENTIONING GERTH BY NAME. HE SAID THAT OFFICIAL VISA ISSUANCE TIME MIGHT WELL BE SHORTENED, AND ADMINISTRATOR AGREED THAT THIS WAS "REASONABLE REQUEST" WHICH WE COULD EXPLORE FURTHER. MEETING, WHICH HAD CORDIAL NOTE THROUGHOUT, ENDED WITH INVITATION TO ADMINISTRATOR TO VISIT BUDAPEST, AND HIS AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE TO DO SO, ALTHOUGH NO SUCH TRIP COULD FIRMLY BE PLANNED NOW DUE TO BUDGETARY REASONS.

9. COMMENT: WE WERE GLAD TO BE ALERTED TO TAMAS STOPOVER AND BELIEVE TALKS MADE HELPFUL CONTRIBUTION TO US-GOH CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 STATE 033768

CONSULAR RELATIONS. HIS RATHER INTRIGUING REFERENCE TO CONSULAR CONVENTION NEGOTIATIONS IN CONNECTION DIVIDED FAMILIES (PARA 5) MAY HAVE BEEN REMINDER THAT DUAL RELATIONS PROBLEM IN THAT CONTEXT WAS SOLVED BY EXCHANGE OF LETTERS STRESSING RELIANCE ON GOH HUMANITARIAN RECORD. IF SO, THERE MAY BE HELPFUL PRECEDENT HERE FOR EVENTUAL

CONSIDERATION IN DIVIDED FAMILIES AREA GENERALLY. IN AREA OF SPEEDING UP OFFICIAL VISA ISSUANCE, OUR INCLINATION WOULD BE TO WELCOME THIS STEP FOR VISITING OFFICIALS AND IN URGENT CASES. HOWEVER, SINCE VISAS WOULD IN ALL PROBABILITY BE ISSUED ON POST-CHECK BASIS, WE WOULD TEND TOWARDS VIEW THAT PERSONS ASSIGNED HERE WOULD STILL WARRANT MORE CAREFUL SCREENING PROCESS AND THEIR VISAS SHOULD NOT BE SPEEDED UP. EMBASSY VIEWS REQUESTED. END COMMENT. INGERSOLL

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CONSULAR AGREEMENTS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE033768
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: WSSHEPARD/FDR
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750054-0360
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750244/aaaabnot.tel
Line Count: 169
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: BUDAPEST 382
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 JUN 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <14 OCT 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: COURTESY CALLS BY TAMAS ON SCA ADMINISTRATOR AND EUR/EE DIRECTOR
TAGS: CGEN, PFOR, HU, (TAMAS)
To: BUDAPEST
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006